

# BULLETIN OF THE MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

EDITED by

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## THE CLEVELAND MEETING

The Cleveland meeting was a great success. The registration was good—fifty-five persons, representing forty-nine libraries having signed the secretary's book. This compares well with the two previous meetings where the registration was:

1928—New York—65 Persons.  
47 Libraries.  
1927—Washington—59 Persons.  
45 Libraries.

The New York meeting showed the need of opportunities for closer contacts among those attending the meetings. This year the Hotel Statler was designated as the official hotel and arrangements made for reservations for all members and this proved a happy solution of the problem. The members ate together and were together at other times between and after the meetings developing a spirit of camaraderie most essential for the good of the Association.

The round table discussion of library problems stimulated great interest and brisk discussion and should be made a permanent feature of future programs.

The Association is continuing its interest in major library problems and this year, considered the question of insurance and fire prevention for medical libraries in which many members were greatly interested. Progress has been made in the improvement of the Quarterly-Cumulative Index Medicus.

The dinner held at the Hotel Statler was well attended—fifty being present—and Dr. I. S. Cutter, Dean of Northwestern University Medical School, gave a most interesting talk on the History of Puerperal Fever, illustrated with the stereopticon. The Boston Medical Library exhibited the books described by Dr. Cutter, including the

original record book of the meeting at which Oliver Wendell Holmes read his memorable paper.

The light side was again in evidence and is always a good sign of comradeship. Willes, unknown to Cleveland librarians, was discovered by a merry group looking for the Lake front, who found it very hard to tear themselves away from the festivities and the delicious young onions even at the near approach of midnight. A very prominent member was initiated into the mysteries of the "Hot Dog" and still another group enjoyed the hospitality of the "Compressed Air Tank". The "Royal" suite was most convenient for both formal and informal gatherings.

One of the older members, one who has attended meetings from the third to the thirty-second, said that it was the best meeting she had ever attended and that a wonderful spirit permeated the whole Convention which augured good for the Association and which should be maintained at any cost. Another said that the members seemed to be one large family.

#### BY-LAWS

The proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws submitted by the Special Committee and by the Executive Committee were adopted by the Association excepting the provisions relating to the distribution of material through the Exchange and to limiting the officers to persons actually engaged in Library work.

The most important changes may be summarized as follows:

1. The broadening of the Exchange policy of the Association to permit of establishing of more than one center of distribution and the fostering of general exchange among member libraries.
2. The broadening of the field of membership so as to permit the admittance of allied scientific libraries such as dental, veterinary, biological, psychological, zoological and like libraries.
3. The reclassification of membership and the establishment of the new class of professional membership for library workers.
4. The establishment of a Nominating Committee and the provision for voting by mail thus giving all Library members a voice in the election of officers.
5. The increase in the Executive committee members at large from three to five with a three year term of office.
6. The establishment of Standing Committees.
7. The authorization of distribution of exchange material for second sets under certain conditions.
8. The regulation of distribution of exchange material to member libraries not offering material for exchange.
9. The determination of the place of the Annual meeting by the Association instead of the Executive Committee.
10. Perfecting and safeguarding the presentation of amendments to the By-Laws.

#### EXCHANGE

The old By-Law remains in effect and the distribution will be carried out according to that By-Law which is "Libraries shall be given precedence in the disposal of the material for Exchange in accordance with their size, the largest library being given first choice".

The testimony given by the librarians of small libraries at the meeting made it quite evident that there is no need for any change in the method of distribution. There was no complaint as to the conduct of the Exchange and much evidence that the small library was greatly pleased and satisfied with the amount of material received from the Exchange.

Those who receive should give and an amendment has been made to By-Laws compelling each member library to offer suitable material to the Exchange at least once in two years or be debarred from receiving material. Also the distributed material for second sets has been authorized provided all primary applications have been filled.

It should be remembered that the Exchange is incidental to the Association and that one joins the Association and not the Exchange.

#### EXHIBIT

The leading publishers of the United States very kindly sent their latest and best books to the Convention so that the librarians might have the benefit of seeing them all together and examining them at their leisure. It is suggested that when the new books are again exhibited that the books be placed in a room at the hotel headquarters where it would be more convenient for the members who could drop in at odd moments and thus have a better opportunity for close comparison and selection.

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### MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING 1929

#### PRELIMINARY REPORT

The annual convention of the Medical Library Association was held in Cleveland on September 3-5th. Headquarters were established at the Hotel Statler and the meetings were held at the Allen Memorial Medical Library and at the Cleveland Public Library.

At the opening session on the morning of September 3rd, Dr. Carl H. Lenhart, Director of the Cleveland Medical Library welcomed the members and Dr. Archibald Malloch, President of the Association and Librarian of the New York Academy of Medicine responded for the Association. Dr. Malloch took for his presidential address the subject of Medical Bibliography. The remainder of the session was taken up with papers on the Cleveland Medical Library, Cleveland Public Library, Library of the Rockefeller Institute and the Welch Medical Library at Baltimore respectively by J. C. Hard-